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MISCELLANY.

We find the following article in a late number of the Charleston Courier, but without any mark to distinguish it as original in that paper. From whence copied we know not.

UNITED STATES NAVY.

An analysis of the Navy Register of the United States for 1840.

We are told in every quarter that the navy of this country, instead of advancing towards excellence in the model and build of its vessels, in their equipment and armament, in the intelligence and discipline of its personnel, is falling off, and is less efficient every day for the past ten years. We are further told, an universal dissatisfaction is spread through all grades, (always excepting that of Navy Commissioner,) and the officers themselves cannot unite in opinion upon any one point.

Are these charges true? Is there any foundation for supposing that the navy of 1840 is not superior to the navy of 1839?

In the year 1812, the vessels of war of the United States consisted of 11 frigates, 2 sloops, 5 brigs, 2 schooners, 4 bomb vessels, and 170 gunboats. Of this force there were in commission 6 frigates, 2 sloops, 4 brigs, 1 schooner, 1 cutter, and 50 gunboats—making 64 sail in commission, January 1, 1812. At this time the personnel consisted of 12 Captains, 10 Commanders, 73 Lieutenants, 53 Sailing-masters, 27 Surgeons, 26 Assistant Surgeons, 6 Chaplains, 33 Purser's, 15 Boatswains, 17 Gunners, 14 Sailmakers, 13 Carpenters, and 310 Midshipmen.

On the 1st January, 1832, there were 19 sail in commission, viz: 2 frigates, 11 sloops, and 6 schooners—a force very much less than that which was afloat 20 years before.

The increase of force afloat for the last eight years, and the gradual but exceedingly slow augmentation of the navy in all its departments, may be seen by comparing the above statements with the following:

Synopsis of the Navy of the United States, January 1, 1840.

Class.	In Commission.		In ordinary.	On the stocks.	Total 1840.
	At home.	Abr'd.			
Ships of Line	2	1	4	4	11
Razee	..	1	..	..	1
Frig's 1st class	2	3	3	6	14
Frig's 2d class	..	1	1	..	2
Sloops of war	4	13	4	..	21
Brigs	2	2	..	..	4
Schooners	5	5	..	..	10
Store vessel	..	1	..	..	1
Steamers	3	..	..	2	5
Total,	18	27	12	12	69

The whole navy of the United States consists, as we see above, of 69 vessels, including every thing, from the Pennsylvania to the little tenders employed in the Exploring Expedition. Of these 69 sail, it is not fair to reckon upon more than those which are actually afloat, and even some of these are unseaworthy, if we may credit the reports made in relation to the frigate United States; and the argument urged in

favor of New York for a dry-dock, (probably as effective as any other advanced,) was that two ships of the line had been so much injured by time and repose alone, that they cannot be carried by sea, or otherwise, to the dock, either at Norfolk or Boston. Those vessels on the stocks can hardly be counted as a part of the actual efficiency of the navy. Therefore it may be said in truth, that our whole effective naval force does not include any but the vessels in commission, viz: 3 ships of the line, 1 razee, 6 frigates, 17 sloops, 4 brigs, 10 schooners, 1 store-ship, and 3 insignificant steamers—all together making 45 vessels.

The warrant and commission officers (exclusive of the marine corps) in 1812, amounted to 609; at present they number 1181, as follows:

Table showing the personnel of the Navy of the United States, made up from the Navy Register, which ought to have been published January 1st, 1840, instead of March 16.

Official Grades.	Total No.	On duty.		W'g orders.	On leave.	On furlough.
		At H.	At S.			
Commissioned.	Captains	55	16	13	24	2
	Commanders	55	11	11	31	2
	Lieutenants	296	71	119	71	27
	Surgeons	61	23	19	16	3
	P'd Ass't Surg's	17	6	8	2	1
	Assist. Surg's	53	8	37	6	2
	Purser's	51	12	24	11	3
	Chaplains	13	6	3	2	2
	P'd Midship'n	191	48	123	8	11
	Midshipmen	231	2	198	10	3
Warranted.	Masters	29	22	..	3	4
	Boatswains	32	12	14	4	2
	Gunners	37	16	19	1	1
	Carpenters	24	8	15	1	..
	Sailmakers	25	4	19	1	1
	Profes'rs & teachers	17	7	9	1	..
		1181	272	631	192	63
Civ'n.	Navy agents	14	..	..	..	..
	N. storekeep's	9	..	..	..	..
	N. constructors	5	..	..	..	..
		28	..	..	..	..
Marine corps.	Colonel	1	1	..	..	..
	Lieut. Colonel	1	1	..	..	..
	Majors	4	3	..	..	..
	Captains	13	9	2	2	..
	First Lieuts.	20	14	3	1	2
	Second Lieuts.	20	14	6	..	..
		58	42	11	3	2

Of the 55 Captains 26 are unemployed, and of the 55 Commanders 33 are unemployed.

100 Lieutenants are unemployed.

Of 61 Surgeons 19 are unemployed.

Of 17 Passed Assistant Surgeons 14 are on duty.

* Fourteen Lieutenants are in command at home or abroad.

† One Surgeon, at the hospital at Mahon, is included.

‡ One in command of a schooner, and seven are acting as Lieutenants.

§ As the operations of the steam-vessel of war Fulton (of 4 guns) are confined to the New York bay, her officers are included with those doing duty at home.

Of 53 Assistant Surgeons 8 are unemployed.
 Of 51 Purser 15 are unemployed.
 Of 13 Chaplains only 3 are at sea, and some of them do not like to serve at sea at all.
 Of 191 Passed Midshipmen only 20 are unemployed.
 Of 231 Midshipmen all are under orders, with the exception of 13.
 Of 29 Sailing-masters there is not a single one at sea.
 Of 59 Marine officers only 11 are at sea.

It is to be kept in view that, as a general rule, those officers who are on leave, or waiting orders, have recently returned from long service abroad; though it does sometimes happen, that from peculiar circumstances, such as social rank, political position, possession of money, family connexions, &c. &c., it is deemed proper to retain certain officers, either upon the home stations altogether, or to keep them for years waiting orders; and perhaps it is wise policy to do so, because the public service might suffer if trusted to hands which have lost that peculiar tact which continued practice is necessary to preserve.

It will strike every one that the relative proportion of the several grades is unequal; the effect of which is to force much more arduous duty upon one grade of officers than upon another, particularly when no register of service is kept. It would be a very curious and interesting matter to see appended to the name of every commissioned officer in the navy, the number of years and months he had served at sea, from the time of entering the Navy, excluding of course, from the aggregate, duties performed on board of receiving vessels, and river and bay cruisers.

Table showing the Increase of the Navy in a period of 28 years.

Official Grades.		No. in 1812	No. in 1830	No. in 1840	Increase in 28yrs.
Commission and Warrant Officers.	Captains	12	37	55	43
	Commanders	10	39	55	45
	Lieutenants	73	253	290	217
	Surgeons	27	39	61	34
	P'd Asst. Surg's			17	} 4
	Asst. Surgeons	26	47	53	
	Pursers	33	43	51	18
	Chaplains	6	9	13	7
	P'd Midship'n		41	191	} 112
	Midshipmen	310	476	422	
	Masters	53	32	29	decr. 24
	Prof's & teach			17	17
	Boatswains	15	18	32	17
	Gunners	17	20	37	20
Carpenters	13	16	24	11	
Sailmakers	14	16	25	11	
Total of all grades.		609	1050	1181	572
Marines.	Colonel			1	1
	Lieut. Colonel	1	1	1	
	Majors	1		4	3
	Captains	6	9	13	7
	1st Lieutenants	19	24	20	1
	2d Lieutenants	15	15	20	5
Total Marines		42	49	59	17
Vessels of War.	Ships of Line		7	11	11
	Razee			1	1
	Frigates	11	10	16	5
	Sloops	2	16	21	19
	Brigs	5		4	decr. 1
	Schooners	2	7	10	8
	Store Vessels			1	1
	Steamers			5	5
	Gun boats	170			decr. 170
	Bombs	4			decr. 4
Total		194	40	69	50
In Commission		64	19	45	

The great improvement in the Naval establishment of the United States is found in the means of building and equipping vessels. There are seven Navy Yards and two Dry Docks; and at these several places there is accumulated a very large amount of materials, suitable for the purposes of Naval architecture, which may be made available in a very short time. Taken together, the building establishments of the United States are equal to those of any other country in the world, except in their extent. They are still deficient in several particulars, which will no doubt be supplied in the course of years.

Besides the employment found for officers at the Navy Yards, and in the cruising ships, there are other very important duties to be discharged. There are the five receiving vessels, (used to accommodate recruits until drafted into service,) and five recruiting stations for the collection of men to serve in the Navy as seamen, and also to receive and enter apprentices to the Navy. If parents and guardians of scanty means were informed of the very many advantages, and the superior provision offered boys in the Naval service, they would hasten to place them in the employment of their country, instead of permitting the wretched children to idle through the streets of our large cities, "unwashed, unkept," apt pupils of vice and crime, which to some extent seem to be necessary companions of great poverty or penury.

The above tables, which have been carefully collated, show that the Navy does gradually increase in the number of vessels and of officers, but whether there is also an improvement in the model and sailing of the vessels, or of education, skill, or intelligence in the officers, is a question that cannot be solved statistically unless the "Scraps in the Lucky Bag" help us out. Our own opinion is that the officers do improve: both their moral and intellectual tone are of an higher order than they were thirty years ago; and I believe, generally, our ships are as efficient (when once got to sea) as the ships of any other Navy in the world. But it is notorious, that it requires more time to equip and send ships to sea than was the case in old times. It rarely happens now, that ships on foreign stations are relieved within the period of the term of service for which their crews have contracted. Every body knows how long the Grand Exploring Expedition lay in our waters. Many know the time occupied in fitting out the relief squadron for Brazil; and those who live long enough will know when the squadron, which should be this very instant in the China Seas, will be able to sail. It may be fairly conjectured, from late experience, that the China squadron will be ready for sea in about ten months from the time the order is or was issued. EAU DOUCE.

NEW WORK IN THE PRESS.—We have examined with much satisfaction the proof sheet of a forthcoming work from the pen of J. Henshaw Belcher, a civil officer in the navy of the United States. It was written during the cruise of the East India squadron, (in the years 1833, '39, '40,) commanded by Commodore Read, and consisting of the ships Columbia and John Adams. Its title, "AROUND THE WORLD," is at once comprehensive and descriptive; it has the further merit of being simple and direct.

Mr. Belcher writes like a man of sense and education. He is both an accurate and agreeable observer; he therefore teaches while he entertains. Weaving important facts and valuable information into lively and pleasant narrative, his pen glides with ease and freedom from subject to subject, and he succeeds both in diverting the reader and fixing his attention. The work is in the press of C. S. Francis, New York.—*Evening Signal.*

The French corvette Sabine, commanded by Monsieur Cosmao Dumarior, arrived at Pensacola on the 11th Sept. from a cruise.

FRANCIS' LIFE BOATS.—On Monday an experiment—by direction of the Secretary of the Navy—of the safety and probable utility of Francis' Life Boats, was made at the Navy Yard, Brooklyn. Several officers of the navy, as also a committee from the American institute, headed by Judge (late Commodore) Dekay, attended the exhibition.

Seven boats were exhibited, as follows:

1. *Green Boat*, 30 feet long, is a life barge, or gig, built for the Texian navy—at present has no air chambers, but is ready to receive them; is a handsome boat, and rowed by 6 oarsmen.

2. *Missouri Life Boat*, is a family life boat, 16 feet long, built for Dr. G. Morton, of St. Louis, Missouri.

3. *Pilot's Boarding Boat*, is white bottom, green top, 16 feet long—the first life boat built for the New York pilots. This boat was rowed about by two men with the plug holes open.

4. *Race Boat*, white bottom, blue streak, is 22 feet long, built to test the speed of the life boat model (which, it will be perceived, differs from the models of all boats ever before built.) This boat is now without air chambers, but is ready to receive them; she is very light, and rows very fast.

5. *A very small Life Boat*, 8 feet long only, and was built for a model to show the application of the power; was constructed two years since. She will be suspended to fall into the water with her bottom open. This experiment was hoisting the boat by her stern quite up to the davits of the ship Independence a boy seated in her; she was then suddenly cut loose, and in an instant almost was clear of water.

6. *The Life Boat with sharp stern*, mahogany finish, is a model of a storm boarding boat. She cannot keep upside down in the water, and contains all the latest improvements. This boat was repeatedly turned upside down, but when left alone would immediately right herself.

7. *Life Pleasure Boat*, is a boat with two masts, built for a family sail boat, owned by Gerard Coster, Esq.; is a very pretty boat, easily managed, and no doubt perfectly safe.

A common boat, 16 feet long, was upset by one man, and found insufficient to sustain him.

On the whole this experiment was a very interesting one, and calculated to inspire confidence in the invention.—*New York American*, Sept. 24.

LAUNCH OF THE ST. GEORGE, OF 120 GUNS.—The *Devonport Telegraph* contains the following interesting particulars of the launch of this splendid vessel, which took place at Devonport on Thursday, Aug. 27, the anniversary of the battle of Algiers:—

"The keel of the St. George, the largest ship in the British navy, was laid in the early part of the year 1827, and the building was rapidly proceeded with until towards the close of the following year, when she was 'in frame.' In this state she was left to season for four years, when the work was resumed, and has been continued to the present time, with more or less rapidity, as other duties of the establishment allowed. Several alterations have in the course of building, been made in the plan of the St. George, as originally designed by Sir Robert Seppings, who was surveyor of the navy in 1820, when she was ordered to be built. The greater part of these, however, concern the interior of the ship, the outside being nearly as first designed. One important departure, however, there has been from Sir R. Seppings' design, viz., the alteration of the stern, which, instead of being round (like the Royal Adelaide,) has the elliptical stern planned by Mr. Roberts (late master shipwright in this dockyard,) and first tried on the American when she was razed. The elegant appearance of Mr. Roberts' improvement immediately obtained for it the approbation of unprofessional persons, nor were others competent to judge slow in pointing out that it was as efficient as it was most certainly beautiful; the whole advantages of the old round stern being preserved, with

the additional merit of housing the rudder-head, &c. This improvement has been again improved on by Mr. Hawkes (the present master shipwright,) who by lengthening the quarter galleries in a fore and aft direction has contrived to bring the stern more near in appearance to the square ones than it was before.

"The dimensions of the St. George are as stated below, which, it will be seen, we have contrasted with those of the Queen, 120, recently launched at Portsmouth; and the modern French 120-gun ships.

	ST. GEORGE, 120 guns.	QUEEN, 120 guns.
	ft. in.	ft. in.
Length on the Gun-deck	205 11 ¹ / ₂	204 0
Tonnage	170 5 ¹ / ₂	168 5
Breadth extreme	55 3 ¹ / ₂	60 0
for Tonnage	54 2 ¹ / ₂	
Moulded	53 11 ¹ / ₄	
Depth in Hold	23 2	23 6
Burthen in Tons (old measurement)	2719	3099 0
Burthen (new measurement)	2670	

DIMENSIONS OF MODERN FRENCH 120 GUN SHIPS.

	ft. in.
Length on Gun Deck between the rabbets	209 5
Moulded Breadth	55 3 ¹ / ₂
Extreme do	57 0
Draught of water forward	24 11 ¹ / ₂
Ditto ditto aft	26 8 ¹ / ₂
Load Displacement, in Tons	4940

DREADFUL SUFFERINGS OF PART OF THE CREW OF HER MAJESTY'S CORVETTE, MODESTE, OF 18 GUNS; AND MASSACRE OF TROOPS AT MADAGASCAR.—This splendid corvette was launched and fitted out at Woolwich, about November, 1837, under the command of Mr. Harry Eyres, (a commander in the Royal Navy, the whole of the crew being composed of "Woolwich lads,") and ordered to the coast of Africa, where she has been cruising for nearly three years for the suppression of the slave trade; she has been most successful, having captured several vessels and liberating upwards of a thousand human beings. The third vessel taken by the corvette, *Modeste*, (as stated by a gallant officer on board her Majesty's ship) was leaky, in want of provisions, and under repair, when captured. Captain Eyres sent Mr. Pearse, the mate of the *Modeste*, as prize master in her, to Majambo Bay, a place in Madagascar, to await his arrival, as he was on the look-out in other quarters. The young officer in charge made the appointed rendezvous, and anchored.

The next day it blew a strong gale, and the vessel parted from her cables and drove upon the rocks, the surf breaking over them in a most awful manner. She immediately split, and filled with water. The natives of the coast, consisting of various tribes, are a ferocious, and treacherous people, sparing neither age nor sex, when, under such circumstances, the whites are thrown among them. What then must be the feelings of those on board?—a vessel going to pieces, with certain death before them, and almost as little hope from the natives on shore. The latter view of the melancholy alternative did not, however, daunt the crew, and one gallant fellow dashed into the boiling surge and reached the shore with a hawser, which he secured to a projecting rock, by which means, and cutting the gunwale away, the officer in command, Mr. Pearse, succeeded in getting out the long boat; not one on board the vessel disobeyed orders, but cheerfully and respectfully assisted, heart and hand, in first rescuing 22 slaves (mostly children) from an inevitable death if abandoned, and safely landed them, the remainder of the crew remaining with the vessel, although every shock threatened instant destruction. The mate and his crew then abandoned the wreck, but before they had reached twenty yards from the vessel, the directing hawser was carried away, the surf capsized the boats, and

dashed the gallant fellows on the rocks. It blew a hurricane all night, and although in the morning the wind moderated, the rain continued without intermission. A cask containing damaged oatmeal was observed on the shore. Some monkeys shortly appeared, which were soon despatched, and the flesh stewed with the meal, afforded the means of maintenance.

Six days this dreadful state was endured, with never ceasing torrents of rain, without a shelter. The sea, however, at last drove the remains of the brig so high on the rocks, that at low water the commander could get on the wreck, when he found the rocks had gone through her in three places, the deck had been forced up, and that she had parted amidships. A few sails were obtained, with which a tent was rigged. Provisions now began to fail, the oatmeal being nearly expended, and the monkeys so shy, as not to come within a "hail," when two days afterwards, Pearse fancied he descried a sail, which turned out to be the *Modeste*; it was however, getting dark, and as the *Modeste* was wholly ignorant of the state of the shipwrecked crew, she stood off and on, so that they were doomed to pass another dreadful night, with the apprehension of her being blown off or quitting that part of the coast in pursuit. It afterwards appeared that the corvette intended first going to the other side of the island to water, and then to join Pearse's brig, but heavy gales drew her so near the place of rendezvous, that the captain determined on running in, to supply provisions; the rain had ceased the last day, and the party were now even without a drop of water; daylight discovered them, and they were taken on board, where prompt humanity soon restored them.

A court of inquiry was shortly after held for the loss of the vessel, when Pearse and his gallant few were "honorably acquitted," and the utmost praise most liberally bestowed upon him for his conduct and the preservation of his hands. The *Modeste* then proceeded to Bembatooka, and to the Governor a representation was made of the occurrences, when he dispatched a party of troops overland to recover the remaining stores, &c. They were attacked by one of the tribes, and (with the exception of five only of the poor fellows) indiscriminately murdered. It appeared by the report of the survivors that the natives had not seen the wreck until the rain had cleared up, and had not come down to that part of the coast until the day after Pearse and his party had left her. Some short time after, the *Modeste* captured a schooner in the act of running into a port, as it afterwards appeared for provisions. Night coming on, Pearse was sent with four men to take charge, the captain (Eyres,) meaning the next morning to overhaul her. A tremendous gale came on during the night, and the capture being on a lee shore, the corvette was obliged to leave her and make the best of her way clear of the land; but the prize being a small vessel, and a dull sailer, after every exertion, was obliged to let go all her anchors. Here poor Pearse had as much to endure, nearly, as he had previously encountered, for the vessel plunged her masts clean out of her, and swept her decks, carrying her long-boat from the booms, her own crew had got drunk, and the four stout-hearted *Modeste* fellows were continually at the pumps keeping her free; fortunately the schooner, previous to her detention, had purchased anchors and cables of a vessel double her tonnage, or she never could have weathered the gale; on examining her provisions, nothing but dry rice was on board, and not a drop of water. Five days the party were exposed to a burning sun, and the only means of slacking their thirst was by applying their lips to the decks, for the dew which had fallen during the night.

At length the *Modeste* hove in sight (but too late to save the life of the captain of the schooner,) and took Pearse and his men, with the "skeletons" of the schooner, on board. The *Modeste* afterwards made

some captures, among which was a beautiful brigantine, in which he placed Pearse as her commander, and he was fortunate enough to capture a small vessel with 22 slaves. The *Modeste* and the brigantine met at the Cape of Good Hope, where the gallant Captain Eyres introduced Mr. Pearse to the Commander in Chief, the Hon. Rear Admiral Elliott, at the same time recounting his sufferings and services. The *Modeste* was immediately ordered to join the fleet assembling to co-operate against the Chinese.

MILITARY MAXIMS OF NAPOLEON.

1. The frontiers of states are either large rivers, or chains of mountains, or deserts. Of all these obstacles to the march of an army, the most difficult to overcome is the desert; mountains come next, and large rivers occupy the third place.

2. In forming the plan of a campaign, it is requisite to foresee every thing the enemy may do, and to be prepared with the necessary means to counteract it.

Plans of campaign may be modified, *ad infinitum*, according to circumstances, the genius of the general, the character of the troops, and the features of the country.

3. An army which undertakes the conquest of a country has either its two wings resting upon neutral territories, or upon great natural obstacles, such as rivers or chains of mountains. It happens in some cases that only one wing is so supported, and in others, that both are exposed.

In the first instance cited, viz: where both wings are protected, a general has only to guard against being penetrated in front. In the second, where one wing only is supported, he should rest upon the supported wing. In the third, where both wings are exposed, he should depend upon a central formation, and never allow the different corps under his command to depart from this; for if it be difficult to contend with the disadvantage of having *two* flanks exposed, the inconvenience is doubled by having *four*, tripled if there be *six*; that is to say, if the army is divided into two or three different corps. In the first instance, then, as above quoted, the line of operation may tend indifferently to the right or to the left. In the second it should be directed towards the wing in support. In the third, it should be perpendicular to the centre of the army's line of march. But in all these cases, it is necessary, every five or six days, to have a strong post or an entrenched position upon the line of march, in order to collect stores and provisions, to organize convoys, to form a centre of movement, and establish a point of defence to shorten the line of operation.

4. When the conquest of a country is undertaken by two or three armies, which have each their separate line of operation until they arrive at a point fixed upon for their concentration, it should be laid down as a principle, that the junction should never take place near the enemy, because the enemy, in uniting his forces, may not only prevent it, but beat the armies in detail.

5. All wars should be governed by certain principles, for every war should have a definite object, and be conducted according to the rules of art. War should only be undertaken with forces proportioned to the obstacles to be overcome.

6. At the commencement of a campaign, to *advance* or *not to advance*, is a matter for grave consideration, but when once the offensive has been assumed, it must be sustained to the last extremity. However skilful the manœuvres, a retreat will always weaken the *morale* of an army, because in losing the chances of success, these last are transferred to the enemy. Besides, retreats cost always more men and *matériel* than the most bloody engagements; with this difference, that in a battle, the enemy's loss is nearly equal to your own, whereas in a retreat, the loss is on your side only.

7. An army should be ready every day, every night, and at all times of the day and night, to oppose all the resistance of which it is capable. With this view, the soldier should be invariably complete in arms and ammunition; the infantry should never be without its artillery, its cavalry, and its generals; and the different divisions of the army should be constantly in a state to support and to be supported.

The troops, whether halted or encamped, or on the march, should be always in favorable positions, possessing the essentials required for a field of battle; for example, the flanks should be well covered, and all the artillery so placed as to have free range, and to play with the greatest advantage. When an army is in column of march, it should have advanced guards and flanking parties, to examine well the country in front, to the right and to the left, and always at such distance as to enable the main body to deploy into position.

8. A general in chief should ask himself frequently in the day, what should I do if the enemy's army appeared now in my front, or on my right, or my left? If he have any difficulty in answering these questions, he is ill posted, and should seek to remedy it.

9. The strength of an army, like the power in mechanics, is estimated by multiplying the mass by the rapidity; a rapid march augments the *morale* of an army, and increases all the chances of victory.

10. When an army is inferior in number, inferior in cavalry, and in artillery, it is essential to avoid a general action. The first deficiency should be supplied by rapidity of movement; the want of artillery in cavalry, by the choice of positions. In such circumstances, the *morale* of the soldier does much.

11. To act upon lines far removed from each other, and without communications, is to commit a fault which always gives birth to a second. The detached column has only its orders for the first day; its operations on the following day depend upon what may have happened to the main body. Thus the column either loses time upon emergency, in waiting for orders, or acts without them, and at hazard. Let it therefore be held as a principle, that an army should always keep its columns so united as to prevent the enemy from passing between them with impunity. Whenever, for particular reasons, this principle is departed from, the detached corps should be independent in their operations. They should move towards a point fixed upon for their future junction. They should advance without hesitating, and without waiting for fresh orders, and every previous means should be concerted to prevent their being attacked in detail.

12. An army ought only to have one line of operation. This should be preserved with care, and never abandoned but in the last extremity.

13. The distances permitted between corps of an army upon the march, must be governed by the localities, by circumstances, and by the object in view.

14. Among mountains, a great number of positions are always to be found very strong in themselves, and which it is dangerous to attack. The character of this mode of warfare consists in occupying camps on the flanks or in the rear of the enemy, leaving him only the alternative of abandoning his position without fighting, to take up another in the rear, or to descend from it in order to attack you. In mountain warfare, the assailant has always the disadvantage. Even in offensive warfare in the open field, the great secret consists in defensive combats, and in obliging the enemy to attack.

15. The first consideration with a general who offers battle, should be the glory and honor of his arms; the safety and preservation of his men is only the second; but it is in the enterprise and courage resulting from the former, that the latter will most assuredly be found. In a retreat, besides the honor of the army, the loss is often equal to two battles.

For this reason we should never despair while brave men are to be found with their colors. It is by this means we obtain victory, and deserve to obtain it.

16. It is an approved maxim in war, never to do what the enemy wishes you to do, for this reason alone, that he desires it. A field of battle, therefore, which he has previously studied and reconnoitred, should be avoided, and double care should be taken where he has had time to fortify or entrench. One consequence deducible from this principle is, never to attack a position in front which you can gain by turning.

17. In a war of march and manœuvre, if you would avoid a battle with a superior army, it is necessary to entrench every night, and occupy a good defensive position. Those natural positions which are ordinarily met with, are not sufficient to protect an army against superior numbers without recourse to art.

18. A general of ordinary talent, occupying a bad position, and surprised by a superior force, seeks his safety in retreat; but a great captain supplies all deficiencies by his courage, and marches boldly to meet the attack. By this means he disconcerts his adversary, and if this last shows any irresolution in his movements, a skilful leader, profiting by his indecision, may even hope for victory, or at least employ the day in manœuvring—at night he entrenches himself, or falls back to a better position. By this determined conduct he maintains the honor of his arms, the first essential to all military superiority.

19. The transition from the defensive to the offensive, is one of the most delicate operations in war.

20. It may be laid down as a principle, that the line of operation should not be abandoned; but it is one of the most skilful manœuvres in war to know how to change it, when circumstances authorize or render this necessary. An army which changes skilfully its line of operation, deceives the enemy, who becomes ignorant where to look for its rear, or upon what weak points it is assailable.

21. When an army carries with it a battering train, or large convoys of sick and wounded, it cannot march by too short a line upon its depôts.

22. The art of encamping in position is the same as taking up the line in order of battle in this position. To this end, the artillery should be advantageously placed; ground should be selected which is not commanded, or liable to be turned, and, as far as possible, the guns should cover and command the surrounding country.

23. When you are occupying a position which the enemy threatens to surround, collect all your force immediately, and menace him with an offensive movement. By this manœuvre you will prevent him from detaching and annoying your flanks, in case you should judge it necessary to retire.

24. Never lose sight of this maxim, that you should establish your cantonments at the most distant and best protected point from the enemy, especially where a surprise is possible. By this means you will have time to unite all your forces before he can attack you.

25. When two armies are in order of battle, and one has to retire over a bridge, while the other has the circumference of the circle open, all the advantages are in favor of the latter. It is then a general should show boldness, strike a decided blow, and manœuvre upon the flank of his enemy. The victory is in his hands.

26. It is contrary to all true principle to make corps which have no communication act separately against a central force whose communications are open.

27. When an army is driven from a first position, the retreating columns should rally always sufficiently in the rear to prevent any interruption from the enemy. The greatest disaster that can happen, is when the columns are attacked in detail, and before their junction.

28. No force should be detached on the eve of a

battle, because affairs may change during the night, either by the retreat of the enemy, or by the arrival of large reinforcements, to enable him to resume the offensive, and counteract your previous dispositions.

29. When you have resolved to fight a battle, collect your whole force. Dispense with nothing. A single battalion sometimes decides the day.

30. Nothing is so rash, or so contrary to principle, as to make a flank march before an army in position, especially when this army occupies heights at the foot of which you are forced to defile.

31. When you determine to risk a battle, reserve to yourself every possible chance of success, more particularly if you have to deal with an adversary of superior talent; for if you are beaten, even in the midst of your magazines and your communications, woe to the vanquished!

32. The duty of an advanced guard does not consist in advancing or retreating, but in manœuvring. An advanced guard should be composed of light cavalry, supported by a reserve of heavy, and by battalions of infantry, supported also by artillery. An advanced guard should consist of picked troops, and the general officers, officers, and men, should be selected for their respective capabilities and knowledge. A corps deficient in instruction is only an embarrassment to an advanced guard.

33. It is contrary to all the usages of war to allow parks or batteries of artillery to enter a defile, unless you hold the other extremity. In case of retreat, the guns will embarrass your movements and be lost. They should be left in position under a sufficient escort until you are master of the opening.

34. It should be laid down as a principle never to leave intervals by which the enemy can penetrate between corps formed in order of battle, unless it be to draw him into a snare.

35. Encampments of the same army should always be formed so as to protect each other.

36. When the enemy's army is covered by a river, upon which he holds several *têtes de pont*, do not attack in front. This would divide your force, and expose you to be turned. Approach the river in echelon of columns, in such a manner that the leading column shall be the only one the enemy can attack without offering you his flank. In the mean time, let your light troops occupy the bank, and when you have decided on the point of passage, rush upon it, and fling across your bridge. Observe, that the point of passage should be always at a distance from the leading echelon, in order to deceive the enemy.

37. From the moment you are master of a position which commands the opposite bank, facilities are acquired for effecting the passage of the river; above all, if this position is sufficiently extensive to place upon it artillery in force. This advantage is diminished, if the river is more than three hundred toises, (or six hundred yards,) in breadth, because the distance, being out of the range of grape, it is easy for the troops which defend the passage to line the bank and get under cover. Hence it follows that if the grenadiers, ordered to pass the river for the protection of the bridge, should reach the other side, they would be destroyed by the fire of the enemy; because his batteries, placed at the distance of two hundred toises from the landing, are capable of a most destructive effect, although removed above five hundred toises from the batteries of the crossing force. Thus the advantage of the artillery would be exclusively his. For the same reason, the passage is impracticable, unless you succeed in surprising the enemy, and are protected by an intermediate island, or unless you are able to take advantage of an angle in the river, to establish a cross fire upon his works. In this case the island or angle forms a natural *tête de pont*, and gives the advantage in artillery to the attacking army. When a river is less than sixty toises (or one hundred and twenty yards) in breadth, and you have a post on the other side, the troops which are thrown across

derive such advantages from the protection of your artillery, that, however small the angle may be, it is impossible for the enemy to prevent the establishment of a bridge. In this case, the most skilful generals, when they have discovered the project of their adversary, and brought their own army to the point of crossing, usually content themselves with opposing the passage of the bridge, by forming a semi-circle round its extremity as round the opening of a defile, and removing to the distance of three or four hundred toises from the fire of the opposite side.

Domestic Intelligence.

FLORIDA WAR.

From the *St. Augustine Herald*, Sept. 12.

Extract of a letter to the editor, dated,

FORT CRANE, Sept. 7, 1840.

As Lieut. Turner, of Capt. Tusker's company of mounted volunteers, was proceeding alone from Fort Walker to this place, by way of the prairie, he discovered about two miles out, a squad of a dozen Indians standing up apparently so deep in consultation, that his approach was unnoticed. On seeing them he wheeled his horse and escaped with loss of hat and saddle bags—the Indians giving chase and firing two shots. Lieut. Turner then returned to give the alarm at Fort Walker, and there being no disposable force at the place, proceeded to Watkahootee, 6 miles South. Scarcely had he got half way, when he came on what he considers the same body of Indians (who had cut across the hammock.) Appearing to recognize him, they raised a tremendous yell, and "streaked" after him in a continuous line. The nearest was within 50 yards before the lieutenant could wheel and get under way. Again he escaped with loss of hat, and again two shots were fired without effect. On the return of the lieutenant to Fort Walker, an express was sent to Watkahootee by another road.

About half past four in the afternoon, Col. Dancy arriving with a small escort at Fort Walker, was informed of the foregoing, and that firing was heard to the southward. Taking a few more men, making 17 in all, he galloped down the road, and at about half the distance to Watkahootee discovered evidence of a combat, but no appearance of combatants. Proceeding a short distance further, he met Lieut. Hanson, returning with a reinforcement commanded by Capt. Hawkins.

On the arrival of the express, Lieut. W. K. Hanson had left Watkahootee with 30 men, and marching in extended order, was suddenly fired upon by the Indians ambushed in the hammock, killing one man and wounding four. The soldiers took to trees, when the Indians sallying on each flank, endeavored to surround them. Hanson's line of fire was 150 yards, and as the Indians covered the whole front and were turning both flanks, their numbers must have been large, and nothing but the coolness and judgment of Lieut. H. and good conduct of the men, prevented a general massacre. They fell back on the reinforcement, bearing off the wounded, and then returned to the charge. Col. Dancy's party accompanied, but no further trace of the Indians could be found.

This morning Capts. Bonneville and Hawkins, with their respective commands, proceeded in pursuit of the enemy.

APALACHICOLA, Sept. 12.—By an arrival from Cedar Keys, we learn that on the 4th inst., the 2d regiment of Dragoons, Capt. B. L. Beall, surprised and attacked a party of about 30 Indians, on the Wacassie river, and succeeded in capturing Hola Too Chee, a sub chief of the Micasukies, Hosan Hadjo or Craggy Moss, Holan Te Mathla Chee, and No Cos Cilla or Bear's Foot. The others fled to the hammocks, whither, according to our informant, Capt. B., with the troops under his command, intended to pur-

sue them, taking the prisoners with them, to ascertain if possible their place of retreat.

We learn also that a party of Indians burnt a house a few miles below Chattahoochee a few days since; its occupants had previously fled from apprehensions of an attack.—*Advertiser*.

A letter received from Second Lieutenant B. H. ARTHUR, commanding company E, first infantry, under date of August 12, states that about nine o'clock on the night of Saturday, the 10th of that month, an express rider arrived at Fort Barker, and reported an encampment of Indians on the road to Fort Mitchell, about seven miles from the former post. The lieutenant ordered out a detachment of his company, and guided by the express, proceeded within one mile of the camp, where he halted and formed his men in one rank placing a recruit and an old soldier alternately, and divided them into three parties with directions to advance on different points, and encircle the camp. They then advanced cautiously through the palmetto bushes and swamp, till Sergeant FALCONER, who led one of the parties, saw an Indian stir, and fired, which was immediately followed by the discharge of about twelve muskets. Three Indians started to their feet, of whom two fell, when the lieutenant, fearing his men might shoot each other, ordered a charge, and was obeyed with alacrity. The remaining Indian engaged private BROMLEY, and threw him to the ground, but being attacked by Sergeant FALCONER, quitted his hold and ran; and though seen to fall several times, could not be found that night. The two Indians who had fallen were killed before they could regain their feet. When the affray was ended, the fire was put out, and the detachment returned to the fort at 3 o'clock on Sunday morning. On the next day, in consequence of another alarm, a portion of the company returned to the battle ground, when they found and buried the two Indians, who were killed by the fire, and with them, their beef, tallow, lard, and coontee cakes, sufficient for ten men for ten days. They also brought away three rifles, with the pouches, powder horns, bullets, and powder, together with their moccasins, blankets, and other articles. The Indian who engaged BROMLEY and FALCONER was found dead two days after by some men of company F, who were attracted to the spot by the buzzards. None of the soldiers were injured, but two muskets were rendered unfit for service, by being bent in the struggle.—*Globe*, Sept. 25.

From the St. Augustine News, Sept. 18.

A letter from Black Creek states that Lieut. Hanson, 7th infantry, went out from Wakahoote, and had a second fight with the Indians. The enemy retreated, leaving 4 dead on the field.

Extract from a letter to the editor, dated FORT JACKSON, M. F., Sept. 8, 1840:

The 1st infantry leaves Middle Florida immediately for Tampa Bay, except two companies, B and E, which proceed to Fort Gilmer, Geo. Middle Florida will be protected by the volunteers alone.

Sergeant Hessen, of B company, 1st infantry, left Fort Jackson on the 3d inst., on express for Fort Macomb. On the 4th inst. his horse went in to Fort Macomb; a scout was sent out immediately, and they found his overcoat a few miles below Charles' Ferry. Nothing has been heard of him since.

On the morning of the 5th inst. a soldier of H company, 1st infantry, was rescued by some volunteers from two Indians, who were carrying him off into a hammock near Booth's, about a mile from Charles' Ferry. The soldier was drunk. The Indians had no arms, and escaped.

A letter from Black Creek states that Lieut. Hanson, 7th Infantry, went out from Wakahoote, and had a second fight, with the Indians. The enemy retreated, leaving four dead on the field.

John Barry, a native of Ireland, and lately discharged from the U. S. Army was accidentally drowned yesterday, near the Powder House. He has left a wife and two children in Philadelphia.

DADE INSTITUTE.—Capt. Norman, the enterprising projector of this literary institution, arrived in town on Tuesday evening. Capt. N. is sanguine as to the final action of Congress in its aid to the work, and is stimulated by a zeal for its completion truly commendable.

The Savannah Republican says that the following is a correct account of the engagement which took place on the 6th instant near Fort Watahoota, between the United States troops commanded by Lieut. W. K. Hanson, 7th Infantry, and a party of Indians:

On that day, information having been received at the fort that Indians were in the vicinity, Lieut. Hanson with a force of thirty-five men, started immediately in pursuit. At the distance of 1½ miles from the fort, the troops were fired upon by the enemy, from a dense hammock. Lieut. Hanson caused the fire to be promptly returned; and judging from the long line of fire from the enemy, that they far outnumbered his command, and perceiving that they outflanked him, he retired in good order, about 300 yards to the open woods, and then maintained a warm contest with them for about forty minutes—at the end of which time, the enemy left the ground, and hastily withdrew into the hammock. Lieut. H. now knowing that the enemy were superior to his force in numbers, and having one man killed and four wounded, did not think it prudent to follow them into the hammock.

Capt. Hawkins, 7th Infantry, soon arriving upon the ground with a reinforcement, the command of course devolved upon him. A charge was made into the hammock, but to no purpose—no Indians, living or dead, were seen; another instance of the wonderful rapidity with which the Indians conceal or carry off their wounded and dead.

The number of the Indians was not less than eighty, and there are many good reasons for supposing it to have been greater.

The contending parties were often within 50 feet of each other, and Indians were distinctly seen to fall. Had they not met with very rough treatment and suffered severely, they would not have so hastily yielded the ground.

We learn, that Capt. WILKINSON will take command of the West India squadron, and that the ships composing the squadron will arrive at Norfolk, in a few weeks.

Com. SHUBRICK, at present in command of the West India squadron, will assume the command of the Norfolk station, vice Com. WARRINGTON, transferred to the Navy Board at Washington.

Com. DOWNES will take command of the East India squadron.

Purser JACKSON will be relieved at this station by Purser CLARK, and will join the sloop-of-war, Boston, of the East India squadron.—*Norfolk Beacon*, Sept. 21.

From the Eastport Sentinel, Sept. 2.

A CARD.—The undersigned returns his sincere thanks to Captain Nones, officers and crew of the U. S. cutter Alert, for their prompt and timely aid in assisting in getting off the brig Gov. Robbins from Black Rock.

WILLIAM DUNHAM,

Capt. brig Gov. Robbins.

ADJUTANT GENERAL.—We are gratified to state that Major Robert W. Haywood, of this city, has been appointed Adjutant General of the State, vice Gen. Daniel, deceased. Major H. is the graduate of a military school, and well qualified to discharge the duties of the appointment.—*Raleigh Register*, Sept. 22.

General Macomb and aids, in company with Gen. Wool, visited the Arsenal at Watervliet on Saturday, the 12th inst., and were received with a discharge of artillery. The "Mohawk" Boat Club politely took Gens. Macomb and Wool on board of their beautiful boat, and landed them at the Arsenal wharf, a civility to those gallant warriors, honorable to the young gentlemen.—*Troy, N. Y. Mail.*

Selected Poetry.

From the Savannah Georgian.

THE BURIAL OF AN INFANT IN FLORIDA.

BY LIEUT. PATTEN, U. S. ARMY.

A sound of wail swell'd on the breeze
Out from a Southern glen,
Where sunset thro' the dark leaved trees
Glittered on armed men:
Not there they came, their swords of flame,
To bathe in the battle tide—
But to heap the mould on an infant cold—
The wept of a Warrior's bride.

Stern men were they whom many a field
Had heard in measur'd tread,
Whom many a horn had rous'd at morn
To face the conflict red;
And they veiled their work from the wrath of them
Whose blood had stain'd their steel,
And smoothen'd the ground with the halbert round,
And trod it with armed heel.

And they sprinkled the dust from the oak's old rind,
And scattered the palm leaf's fan—
Or friend or foe, that none might find
That grave of scarce a span.
But who art *thou* with the pale—pale brow
And the watcher's dim-lit eye?
And the mattock rang like a bow-string's twang,
While the voice of grief swell'd by.

I lay thee here, my sinless one,
I put thee down to rest—
But not upon thine elder bed,
Nor on thy mother's breast:
Within this little grave they've scoop'd
Far in the forest wild,
I lay thee here, my precious one,
I leave thee here, my child.

That thou art buried 'neath this spot
They say I must not tell,
Not even to yon little bird
Which sings so wild and well.
Nor to the rustling leaf, nor stream
Which murmurs by thy head—
Lest they should *prate*, and forms of hate
Defile thy hallowed bed.*

The clay is prest upon thy breast,
But neither stone nor mound
Amid the wilds where thou dost rest,
Mark out the secret ground.
It is the work of anxious love—
Yet I have a deeper breath,
So carelessly the *dust* above,
Mantles the *dust* beneath.

They've left no little sign for me
To tell where thou art cast,
On *Earth* there's not a trace of thee,
My dearest and my last;
The tawny foe may trail the doe
But not thy covert wild—
I lay thee here—my sinless one—
I leave thee here, my child.

* The Indian custom of violating new made graves, has compelled the troops serving in Florida to have recourse to every expedient to conceal the spot where a comrade has been buried. The usual method consists in burning a large fire over the spot, which destroys all indication of the earth's having been newly dug up.

WASHINGTON CITY, THURSDAY....OCTOBER 1, 1840.

Lieutenants PENDERGRAST, VAIL, and GODON, of the U. S. Navy, were in Paris on the 9th Sept. on their way to Marseilles, to join the Mediterranean squadron.

OFFICER'S MANUAL—MAXIMS OF NAPOLEON.—

Having heard military gentlemen of our acquaintance express a high opinion of the merits of this little work, as containing the military reflections of the great captain of the age, we endeavored to procure it, but it was not for sale in this country. We therefore ordered it from England, and have lately received a copy. We shall give extracts, from time to time, as our limits will allow, until the whole is completed.

ARRIVALS AT WASHINGTON.

Sept. 23—	Capt. J. McClellan, Top. Engrs.,	Fuller's
	Lieut. A. B. Dyer, Ordnance,	do
24—	Capt. J. D. Searight, 6th infy, Mrs. Craven's	
	Lieut. J. W. Martin, 2d infy,	Fuller's
28—	Capt. W. H. Swift, Top. Engrs.,	do
	Ass't Sur. L. C. McPhail, army,	do
29—	Surgeon R. C. Wood,	do
	Surgeon H. S. Hawkins,	do
30—	Lieut. W. Eustis, 1st drags.	
	Lieut. E. A. Paine, 1st infy,	do

PASSENGERS.

New York, Sept. 25, per ship Iowa, for Havre, Lieut. L. P. Davidson, 1st dragoons, U. S. A. Sept. 27, per steamship Great Western, from Bristol, Lieut. Wm. Eustis, 1st dragoons, U. S. A.

Communications.

NOTES AND REMINISCENCES

OF AN OFFICER OF THE ARMY.—NO. X.

Fort Leavenworth was reoccupied by our battalion; a "fort" by courtesy, or rather by order: it was in reality but a straggling cantonment, but on an admirable site. The Missouri, in an abrupt bend, rushes with wondrous swiftness against a rock-bound shore; from this the ground rises with a bold sweep to a hundred feet or more, then sloping gently into a shallow vale, it rises equally again: and thus are formed a number of hills, which are in the north connected by a surface but slightly bent, to which the vale insensibly ascends; every line of every surface is curved with symmetry and beauty. On these hill-tops, shaded by forest trees, stands Fort Leavenworth. On the one hand is to be seen the mighty river winding in the distance, skirted by blue cliffs; on the other, rolling prairies, dotted with groves, and bounded on the west by a bold ridge; this enclosing in an elliptical sweep a beautiful amphitheatre, terminates five miles southward in a knob, leaving between it and the river a view of the prairie lost in a dim and vague outline. How feeble are words! how inadequate to give a general idea, much more to paint this rare scenery, where grandeur is softened by beauty, and the beautiful enhanced and dignified by a magnificent outline. Blessed with a harmonious and congenial though a small society, the days, the months, flew by. Our duties performed, and studious improvement not neglected, the pleasures of female society gave the greater zest to diversions and exercises. Often the whole of us, in a party, would canter for miles through prairie and grove, and spend the day on the shady banks of a pretty stream; there, where the world had never made

its mark—forgetful of its very existence—we gave our whole hearts to sylvan sports, to feast and merriment, to happiness. A week seldom passed without dancing parties, to which rare beauty and fine music lent their attractions. Sentinels on a distant frontier, ever ready to throw ourselves in the face of savage enemies, though severed from the world with its selfish jarring interests, its contentions and tortuous intrigues, its eternal struggle for dollars, we continued, amid our books and social pleasures, with hunting and the chase, to pass happy years. We always enjoyed the contemplation of Nature in her untamed beauty, fresh as from the hands of the Creator. The greatest danger of our situation was that lethargy and rust of mind, so naturally induced where no exciting motive, no necessity urges on to the labor of exertion. It is not in human nature, in such passive circumstances, long to escape their impression. But some of us strove hard to improve those faculties which an unhappy world would not always, as then, suffer to slumber.

But we were not without our visitors from the world, who sufficiently refreshed our conceptions of its existence and nature, nor, from the regions of our far West, the then accomplished officers of the Indian department, from agencies between us and the Rocky Mountains, and some members of the Fur Company, fresh from natural scenes, and full of racy anecdote of adventure; they were frequently an enlivening addition to our small society. The memory of those years is recalled, as in moments of tranquil enjoyment the dream of some sweet forgotten slumber steals on our rapt senses, recalling a past which hovers indistinctly between the pleasures of imagination and the kindlier realities of existence.

We were often visited by deputations and treaty parties of the many wilder tribes of Indians, varying as much in dress and personal appearance as in character and pursuits. The celebrated Shawnee Prophet was once or twice at the post, and I have heard him speak in council; he was an old man, but little distinguished in appearance. One hundred Pawnees paid us a visit, on business with their agent; Capot Bleu was at their head, a chief remarkable for dignity and suavity of manners—a born gentleman. Reared wholly in prairies, they seemed almost lost in the little woods around us. We all attended one evening at a dance among their camp fires, near by: of their entertainments, one was very remarkable, resembling, indeed, an institution of classic Greece. Of a sudden a fine looking warrior sprang into the circle, stuck an arrow into the ground, and then, in the most animated language, recounted one of his deeds in arms; closing with a call upon any performer of a greater action to make his claim to the prize. He said, in substance, that he had ridden alone to a Spaniard's (Mexican's) house, shot down the owner, scalped him, and driven off sixty horses and mules. After a pause, another Brave arose; described an action which he deemed more brave or reputable. He had, on a certain occasion, struck a man in battle: and then removing the arrow, laid it at the feet of the presiding chief. Others in like manner offered articles, some of more value, until many had, in their finest style of oratory, proclaimed their proudest deeds. These recitals are always strictly veracious; and fashion, or custom, decides that they are not immodest. At the close, the chief adds his sanction by a distribution of the prizes. Opinion has settled the comparative honor of many of these feats. The highest is, to take a warrior prisoner; the second, first to strike a dead or fallen man in battle: there are several reasons given for this singular honor; one perhaps is, that it is most likely to fall to the person who has slain the enemy. A wounded man is dangerous to approach, and will generally have friends near by; but it is a frequent stratagem to feign death to draw on an enemy—seeking this honor to almost certain destruction. I once saw a warrior rush-

ing too eagerly to strike a foe, who certainly was quite dead, killed by an *accidental* shot. Next to this feat is, to strike an opposing enemy in battle.

We were frequently visited by parties of Ottoes, from near the mouth of the Great Platte: they were a brave and interesting people. Their principal chief, I-e-tan, was a distinguished man, of great prowess, and profound judgment or craft: perhaps his most remarkable quality was, a close observation and penetration of character and motives. I heard a gentleman who knew him well, and spoke his language, say, that he had known him to form judicious if not accurate estimates of men, from a half hour's acquaintance, and without understanding a word that was spoken. But deep beneath the calm exterior of his character burned a lava of impetuous passions which, when strongly moved, burst forth with a fierce and blind violence.

I-e-tan had the advantage of a fine and commanding figure; so remarkable, indeed, that once at a dinner on a public occasion at Jefferson Barracks, his health was drank, with a complimentary application of the lines—

"A combination and a form indeed,
"Where every god did seem to set his seal,
"To give the world assurance of a man."

There was a passage in the life of this chief which has been so perverted by an itinerant Indian story-monger, that I cannot refrain from giving it rightly. In a deep carouse which took place one night in the village, in 1822, his brother, a fine fellow, named Blue-eyes, (that color being very extraordinary in an Indian,) had the misfortune to bite off a small piece of I-e-tan's nose. So soon as he became fully sensible of this irreparable injury, to which as an Indian he was perhaps even more sensitive than a white man, I-e-tan burned with a mortal resentment. He told his brother that he would kill him; and retired, got a rifle, and returned. Blue-eyes was found leaning with folded arms against a pillar of his lodge, and thus, with a heroic stoicism which has been rightly attributed as a characteristic of the race, without a murmur, or a word, or the quiver of a muscle, submitted to his cruel fate. I-e-tan deliberately shot him through the heart. Then was I-e-tan seized with a violent remorse, and exhibited the redeeming traits of repentance and inconsolable grief, and of greatness, in the very constancy of the absorbing sentiment. He retired from all intercourse with his race, abstaining wholly from drink, for which he had a propensity; as if under a vow, he went naked for near two years; he meditated upon suicide, and was probably only prevented from committing it by the influence of a white friend; but he sought honorable death in desperate encounters with all enemies he could find, and in this period acquired his name or title, from a very destructive attack which he made upon a party of the I-e-tan tribe. He lived a year or two with the Pawnees, acquired perfectly their very difficult language, and attained a great influence over them, which he never lost. After several years of such penance I-e-tan revisited the villages of his nation, and, in 1830, on the death of La Criniere, his elder brother, succeeded him as principal chief.

I-e-tan married many of the finest girls of his own and neighboring tribes, but never had children. Latterly, one of his wives proved to be pregnant; and, while wavering between love and revenge, a male child was born with teeth. Vanity now proved the strongest passion; he feigned to believe it his son, and pronounced it a special interposition of the Great Spirit, of which this extraordinary sign was the proof. I-e-tan was the last chief who could so far resist the ruinous influence of the increasing communication of his tribe with the villainous—the worse than barbarous whites of the extreme frontier, as to keep the young men under a tolerable control; his death proved a signal for license and disorder.

Intemperance was the great fault in I-e-tan's character—the cause of his greatest misfortune and crime; it led to a violent death. The circumstances of this tragedy are worthy of record, if only that they develop some strong traits of aboriginal character; they are as follows: In April, 1837, accompanied by his two youngest wives, at a trading-house near the mouth of the Platte, he indulged in one of his most violent fits of drunkenness; and in this condition, on a dark and inclement night, drove his wives out of doors: two men of his tribe who witnessed these circumstances took the utmost advantage of them, and seduced the women to fly in their company. One of these men had formerly been dangerously stabbed by I-e-tan. Actuated by hatred—calculating perhaps on the chief's declining power, and the strength of their connexion, which was great—the seducers becoming tired of outlying in hunting camps, &c., determined to return to the village and face it out. Such cases of elopement are not very unfrequent; but, after a much longer absence, the parties generally become silently reconciled, if necessary, through the arrangement of friends. But I-e-tan said that it was not only a personal insult and injury, but an evident defiance of his power; and that he would live or die the chief of the Ottoes. His enemies had prepared their friends for resistance, and I-e-tan armed himself for the conflict. He sought and found the young men in the skirts of the village, near some trees where their supporters were concealed. I-e-tan addressed the man whom he had formerly wounded: "Stand aside; I do not wish to kill you; I have perhaps injured you enough." The fellow immediately fled. He then fired upon the other, and missed him; who, about to return the fire, was shot down by a nephew of I-e-tan's, from a great distance. He then drew a pistol, jumped astride his fallen enemy and was about to blow his brains out, when the interpreter, Dorian, hoping even then to stop bloodshed, struck up his pistol, which was discharged in the air, and seized I-e-tan around the body and arms; at this instant the wounded man, writhing in the agony of death, discharged his rifle at random; the ball shattered Dorian's arm, and broke both of I-e-tan's; but being then unloosed, he sprang upon and stamped the body, and called upon his sister, an old woman, who, with an axe in hand, came running like his nephews and friends from the village, to beat out his brains, which she did. At this instant (Dorian being out of the way) a volley was fired from the trees at I-e-tan, and five balls penetrated his body; then, his nephews coming too late to his support, took swift vengeance: they fired at his now flying enemies, and, although they were in motion, near two hundred yards distant, three of them fell dead.

I-e-tan was conveyed to his lodge in the village, where, being surrounded by many relations and friends, he deplored the condition of the nation, and warned them against the dangers and evils to which it was exposed. He assured them most positively that *if he willed it, he could continue to live*; but that many of the Ottoes had become such dogs, that he was weary of governing them; and that his arms being broken he could no longer be a great warrior. He gave some messages for his friend, the agent who was expected at the village, and then turning to a bystander, told him he had heard that day he had a bottle of whiskey, and to go and bring it; which being done, he caused it to be poured down his throat, when, being drunk, he sang his death-song and died.

The varieties of human character, though infinite, yield to a grand division of the race into two classes; those with much, and those with little *sensibility*. It is impossible to determine which is the more fortunate organization: the one class chafes and frets at all it sees wrong, and experiences positive pain at every exhibition of selfishness, cruelty or turpitude; but, with a lively perception of every natural or moral beauty, it has various capacities for pleasure and enjoyment: the other class is seldom troubled with emo-

tions of any kind, and passes through life in a routine of sensual pleasures and animal pains. This mental and moral torpor I eschew, and prefer to hold intercourse with nature; to walk forth alone—nay, friend reader, if you are in the mood, bear me company. Let us take a stroll together this sunny afternoon; 'tis glorious October, that, with its gorgeous mantle of purple and of gold, sheds a "dying glory" o'er the parting year. Here is a deer-path through the hazle thicket: see how generously unfolded are the ripe nuts! Stop. Listen a moment how the monotony of that gurgling waterfall harmonizes with the repose of nature! Here it is. Let us cross by that moss-grown log. We have no longer a path, but we will go up this noble hill; it is a natural park, and often graced by antlered buck, but in the majesty of freedom. Here we are out of sight of the "improvements" of man; so let us sit on this velvet moss: mind not the rustling lizard, it is harmless. What a glorious solitude is here! Before us is "a prairie sea, all isled with rock and wood;" and beyond, like an ocean shore, a vast bluff, rocky and forest-crowned. And yonder is a glimpse of the river—mighty in repose; a zephyr hovering on its bosom sports with its tiny waves, which, dancing, reflect the dazzling light through those red and golden leaves. But the charm over all is a perfect *repose*. Even the winds, whispering under, seem to have folded their wings: and see yon leaf, in its "dying fall"—if there be a poetry of motion—behold its gently circling descent! That grey squirrel detached it. And look, *he* seems to slumber. Nature is taking a sunny sleep. Oh, there is an invisible, unknown, mental link, connecting all sweet and calm and beautiful things. Who can view such a scene without hearing a natural music—an echo of some long-forgotten tone, which thrilled the heart—without recalling the few blissful moments which, like stars, shine out o'er the dreary void of life—the first conception of love—and its tone from beauty and young innocence—the awakening from some sweet sleep to the sound of a soft music, which was deemed to be not of earth.

Behold the thin blue smoke floating above those distant tree tops! It is the type of the little present, hovering between the great past and the mighty future. What! you too are asleep. Unkind! But 'tis well. Alone let me knock at the doors of old Time, and challenge the shades beyond. The spell is potent. I see dim figures, as in a dream; but they assume the forms of palpable and warm existence. They are paler than the Indian, but are not white. They seem to worship at a mighty altar, and it bears the emblems of war. How strange is all! Unknown animals are there, crouching among the vast multitude: but the grave elders are seated in council. See, a noble youth arises, turbaned and in flowing garments; he seems to speak: he addresses the fathers. How graceful! how animated! His robe falls back, and he shakes aloft his arm. His is a voice for war: for behold that eager and trembling maiden! She drinks those flowing tones, inspired, perhaps, by thoughts of *her*. Love and ambition have carried him away. His spirit seems caught by the multitude. 'Tis ever so. Genius and enthusiasm possess a master-key to all hearts. The elders wave their arms, and seem to deprecate the rashness of impulse; but in vain; there are times when it is prudent to be rash, and they must lead or follow; for all seem resolved, and the assembly breaks up.

But lo, a change! They go forth to war. Song, and shout uncouth, and strange forgotten instruments, fill the air. Huge animals shake their heads, and bellow to the din of rattling arms. There is a band of horse-men, with shield and spear, and waving streamers: they seem clothed in white cotton mail. The orator is there, in highest command. His countenance now is filled with thought, and proud and stern resolve. See the mighty host slowly disappear, winding among the far hills.

Another change! Behold a vast multitude, "vast

beyond compare," with signs of mingled mourning and lofty triumph. All bear loads of earth, and deposit them on that beautiful spot. How fast it grows. It has become a mighty mound. And now they disappear. But one, of all, is left. The same maiden; her face is spread with pallid woe; she weeps, and will never be consoled, till her ashes mingle with that monument of victory and of death—the tomb of her lost idol:

"As swim

"O'er autumn skies, the fleets of shattered cloud,
"So swam these scenes and passed."

What a moral was there! Not the air-built castles of the hopeful and ambitious of the extinct race, have fallen into more immemorial oblivion, than have their proudest and soberest realities. Their mountain tombs are their only monuments.

Soon all was activity and stirring preparation. Half of us were to go to another frontier, where alarms and bloodshed had aroused every element of commotion. But I was not included in the call. Nevertheless, I had felt that I was to go.

But the charm of this quiet existence, which had extended through several summers, was rudely broken. Even *then* the holy calm of nature was disturbed by the noisy bellowings of steam, which I had strangely imagined those of living monsters; and its echoes among the hills around me had a power to banish the sylvan ministers to my solitude. I felt my Arcadian dreams dispelled forever. I beheld the conquering struggle of man with the mighty Missouri, and felt that the type of a more active, troublous existence, in which the world demanded the performance of my part, was before me.

F. R. D.

PROFESSORS OF MATHEMATICS IN THE NAVY.

MR. EDITOR: In your number for September 3d, I observe an article on the subject of professors of mathematics in the navy. The writer seems to think that all these gentlemen require, to render them efficient (which they are not now,) is permanent commissions, good pay, and rank equal to surgeon, purser, chaplain! The writer urges: "It is certainly as important that the professor of mathematics should possess as much talent, learning, and moral worth, as the surgeon, the chaplain, or the purser. His duties are arduous and responsible; and from the nature of his employment, as well as by other considerations, which will readily occur, he is as much entitled to the distinction of a commission as either of those officers!!!"

All these positions are erroneous. The want of efficiency on the part of these nautical professors is due to the fact, that the means resorted to by Congress to secure proper individuals for the discharge of the duties of teaching midshipmen has failed; and the only improvement I have observed, is that instead of being men possessed of a knowledge of the world, a competent supply of mathematical information with a capability of imparting it, and that attribute called dignity, which results from years, or knowledge—not pay altogether—they are men with improved titles, are better dressed, but not better able to teach the five books of Euclid. They are like old bottles in an apothecary shop with new labels—the contents are the same, as old and as stale as before the gilding and painting.

I think this writer is mistaken in his estimate of the importance of a professor of mathematics. A ship can be every way efficient without such an officer on board; the chaplain can also be very well spared; and substitutes may almost always be found on board, even for the purser, though he cannot be very well dispensed with; in small vessels the commander sometimes performs the duty, and on some occasions a lieutenant has had intelligence enough to manage the purser's department temporarily. But I believe

it will be generally admitted that the surgeon's duties can only be discharged by a surgeon or physician. So, if we measure the importance of these officers by their indispensability, the surgeon is, in fact, the only important man of the party.

The writer thinks that the professor of mathematics should possess as much "moral worth"—as much "talent"—as much "learning," "as the surgeon, the chaplain, or the purser." My own opinion is, that all officers should be equal in point of "moral worth," unless we make an exception in favor of the chaplain, who should be superior; and therefore the professor of mathematics may be as moral as the surgeon, or any body else. If by "talent" this writer mean *intellectuality*, I believe the interests of the general service would be consulted in having the decided superiority rest with the surgeon, who should also possess most "learning;" not that any objection could be made, if all the mathematical professors were equal to Sir Isaac Newton.

I believe it is not thought to be requisite for the professor of mathematics to be tested, by examination, beyond the ordinary mathematical knowledge which usually falls to every gentleman of liberal education; nor are they required to display any knowledge of medicine, surgery, or theology, which might be inferred, as this writer claims for them "learning" equal to the surgeon and chaplain.

The thing, to me, wears this aspect: the midshipmen underrate the professors somewhat, and the professors overrate themselves very considerably indeed; hence their dissatisfaction.

The duties of the professor are neither "arduous" nor "responsible." He is rarely employed more than four hours a day, and rarely has he more than a dozen pupils at one time. This much labor can scarcely be considered arduous by any one of industrious habits; and the only responsibility the professor incurs is to himself—he may lose his reputation for learning as well as for teaching; but there is no other palpable responsibility attached to the situation.

The only mode of giving additional importance to professors of mathematics in the navy, is to make what they teach of more importance to the midshipmen. Then they will treat him with that respect and deference which they accord to the boatswain when they apply to him for instruction on points of seamanship.

But I believe the whole class of professors and schoolmasters at sea for midshipmen should be dispensed with; and the young gentlemen taught more systematically on shore, at the Naval Asylum, for example, at Philadelphia. Here they should be taught the theory, and afloat their education should be more practical.

I would not be understood as wishing to disparage the gentlemen who fill the situation of teachers and professors; but I do insist upon putting down false pretensions to learning, responsibility, and arduous duty.

It would be well if our midshipmen were in all respects worthy of the following certificate:—

QUALIFICATIONS OF A MIDSHIPMAN.—In the British navy, before an individual can be promoted to lieutenant, he must produce certificates of sobriety and good moral conduct; adduce his journal kept in the various ships on board of which he may have served, and obtain the following certificate from his examiners:

"He can splice, knot, reef a sail, work a ship in sailing, shift his tides, keep a reckoning of a ship's way by plain sailing, and mercator; observe by the sun or star; find the variation of the compass; and is qualified to do his duty as an able seaman and a midshipman.

"Given under our hands, &c. &c."

"The Seaman's New Vade Mecum." By R. Liddel, Purser in the Royal Navy, London, 1789.

SLIDEL.

FLORIDA WAR.

"Arma, virumque cano."—*Vir.*

Much has been said, and not quite as much done for this subject, though sufficient of the latter to count millions in expense, the result of false feeling and parsimony in the beginning, and sufficient to have enriched every man, woman, and child, the removal of whom to the West has been the object of this warfare.

Our country always has been, and probably always will be, too close in calculating the means to the ends proposed in such matters, at the first; so we cannot much blame our authorities now for past dilemmas in difficult emergencies, though they should profit from experience, when convinced that no plan hitherto pursued or divulged, would drive out the Indians, and that there is a fair prospect, from appearances, of this protracted contest with a handful of naked savages until the next century be ushered in.

Those who have never seen that land of palmettoes and swamps, are but little able to plan a campaign; and those who have, call loudly for more men, though in vain—for citizens will not enlist, and soldiers cannot be found otherwise, to carry their designs into effect. It is worse than useless at this late period to be more captivated by theories than the stubborn facts elicited from practice, and efforts on such a basis, like the ephemera of a day, leave no other result but the rotten carcass, to fester and breed confidence in the enemy, disappointment and despair in the ranks of our own ill-fated troops.

The Seminole Indians, before last summer, never refused, under proper inducements, when communicated with, to come in to a peace talk, under the protection of the white flag; when captives liberated, clothed, pampered and bribed, never returned themselves even, still less conducted to peace, by prevailing with their countrymen so far as to exhibit but an irritated hostility when they approached a fort, and no preponderating disposition to terminate a contest apparently so incompatible with their comforts.

But the savage now loves this mode of warfare; each one, like the members of a banditti, boasts of his exploits, and shows his spoils as a trophy of his valor, and were the whole of Florida bestowed upon them, it would not purchase respite from war, but the defenceless inhabitants of Georgia and Alabama would be food for their evil passions and fiend-like cruelties. More than 1,500 acres of their corn and pumpkins were destroyed by our soldiers during the past summer, and some hundreds or two sheds were burnt (for they can hardly be called houses,) but so far from being induced to come in and surrender themselves to our arms, few, very few Indians were seen, and still less killed or captured; while the loss of the whites to the savages in men, women and children is still exhibiting the mortifying ratio of about twenty-six to one, and the termination of the war is more remote than ever.

We have been dealing so long with an enemy, whose governing principle is deceit and treachery, as though we were at variance with an honorable and high-minded foe, that we have become their derision, pronounced by them "*fools*" for our credulity, and ever have our charity repaid to their vanquished warriors, by the blood and torture of every defenceless female or innocent babe, who falls in their clutches.

Nearly the whole of East Florida now exhibits one continued scene of desolation; civilized man dares not breathe the air beyond the haunts of soldiers, or the din of arms; while for miles around, amid the wild and luxuriant foliage of the forest, nothing of civilization is left but the smouldering remains of ruined edifices, once the habitations of peace, or a few half burnt logs alone are seen of the shrine where once the anthems of praise were sung by hundreds to that Almighty Being, whose altar has been thus desecrated and destroyed by the hands of the uncivilized red

man. Heaps of ashes alone remain where once were the granaries of the opulent, while here and there the faint traces of once well beaten paths, the obscure outline of fences marked only by angular projections in a whitened soil, interspersed with charcoal, shows that here was the abode of families, the members of which have been long since scattered abroad, or repose beneath the ground, victims to the tomahawk and scalping knife; while enrolled in the ranks of the soldiery are to be found a few orphans, too young indeed for war, but for whom charity has thus found a place to keep from starvation those relics of slaughtered households.

Ye whose bosoms thrill with sympathy for the benighted *savage*, whose orisons are undisturbed by war and all its horrors, who repose at midnight in quiet slumber on the downy couch, as in the soul's calm sunshine of unalloyed peace: pause and drop a tear for the distressed of Florida, the disconsolate husband, the weeping widow and bereaved orphan, the shrieks of victims and cries of despair, the temple of your God laid low, and his appealing minister* stabbed to the heart and horribly mutilated, his limbs writhing in agony, when gashed deep, mid the laugh of derision and the shouts of triumph, rush forward to the rescue, require the energies of Government to be put forth to assist and not to paralyze the arm of the Executive when stretched forth to save the innocent and crush the guilty. But there is proposed a remedy, a healing balsam for the fretful wound, which has the merit at least, if no other, of not being the prescription of an empiric, but an orthodox nostrum, concocted amid the storm of battle and the yell of carnage.

In this Territory, a tempting bait to foreign conquest, are not our forces of magnitude sufficient to subdue a handful of naked savages? Reason answers no: numerically superior, indeed, but obliged to cover so large a portion of country to protect the scattered settlements, that like a mass crumbled into fragments, each individual particle wants weight to "kick the beam." Our smaller parties are cut up in detail by an enemy who knows where to concentrate his force to find them, but cannot be found in this land of a million hiding places. The chief complaint the past season was the want of men to fill the ranks of companies not half full: let this deficiency be supplied and add more, for an army of at least 10,000 effective soldiers, half to be mounted, and to serve during the war.

It is folly to try and catch Indians flushed fresh from their coverts, with men without horses, worn down with fatigue, and exhausted with thirst and hunger, the opinion of tyros to the contrary notwithstanding; but let any dare gainsay this opinion who have tried it, and those who attempt to aim at the forked lightning can well calculate the certainty of a fire upon them in the dense thickets of a hammock—footmen must drive them out, but horsemen must pursue. In addition to this, proclaim a reward of \$300 for every warrior taken alive, counting as such all males over 12 years old, and \$200 if killed; \$150 for every squaw, and \$50 for every child taken alive, and nothing if killed, and to all troops in the pay of Government, half the above amounts.

This leans to the side of mercy, and by allowing them subsistence, may induce adventurers to try their fortunes in Indian hunting, each in his own way.

We may spend many millions more, and have many more innocent women and children murdered, have the power of Government long set at defiance, the evil example and our apparent impotency sufficiently promulgated among our Western tribes of Indians, while Congress in apathy is reasoning on the subject. But we must come to this prescription at last; it is the smallest price, and however we may "gild the pill," it must be swallowed; though onerous in appear-

*As occurred within four miles of Micanopy in March last.

ance, like phlebotomy oftentimes to the fevered patient, it will relieve our Treasury. Let this force of 10,000 men be divided into an hundred companies of an hundred each—or 90, as authorized by law, with seven supernumeraries, commanded by two officers each, at least, and to every company let there be some ten or twenty dogs of any kind whatever, to start the enemy from their concealment in the beds of palmettoes. These divisions are to act independently of each other, fifty on foot and fifty mounted, and to avoid unnecessary scouting over the same ground, are to occupy squares of ten miles each, for which purpose those laid off by General Taylor may be divided into four parts—each to draw their supplies from the posts now established as the centres of the twenty mile squares, whose area of 400 square miles is much too large for efficient operations.

Change these squares as necessary, and for the "tug of war let it be Greek against Greek;" not that it is meant to employ an unavailing and imbecile force of savages, which has already been tried, but so to dress our own soldiers in cloth of fawn, or some such dark color, as to render them as little conspicuous, and have the same advantage in the battle-field or in the woods as the Indian warrior dressed in his soiled buckskin.

Can any wonder why so few of the enemy are seen and caught, when informed that white and pale blue are the colors of the summer and winter dress of our troops? Or were our sympathy in unison with those who only feel for dark skin woes, and the object was to give due warning of the approach of the military, would not such a dress be adopted, and the arms polished to flash and glitter in the sunbeams, which might be seen by the foe, ever on the alert? This subject, however small "in prima facie," is momentous, the great arcana how our troops are avoided, waylaid and shot, while the enemy is like the Irishman's flea, put your finger upon him and he is not there.

Indians have been passed in the woods standing stock still—their soiled garments giving them such appearance as to be mistaken for a stump in the distance, and have acknowledged at our treaties that they often see the soldiers hunting for them, when they hide. It is equally true, the troops seldom see them but on the exhibition of martial arrangements for a scout, a sudden and dense smoke is often seen to rise in the horizon, to put their friends upon the "qui vive" and to give due warning to the unwary.

Finally, as an act of retribution and justice, let every warrior taken, if painted for war, be immediately shot, and his carcass hung between heaven and earth, as a warning to these murderers of women and children, whose hands have been dyed in the blood of such victims; for they know better, having been taught by the missionaries.

But while breathing death and destruction against these wretches—while tempest tossed amidst the thunder, wreck and fury of the storm, I propose, in a future number, to offer them a fair haven, a "city of refuge in a promised land," where the well-disposed, if any, may retire in peace; a single star to light the guilty to repentance, and establish the justice of our country.

ST. AUGUSTINE, Sept. 11.—On Sunday last, Lieut. [W. K.] Hanson, 7th infantry, discovering numerous signs around his post, at Wacahoote, proceeded with 30 men in search of the trail. He had not advanced far before he received a heavy fire from the enemy, who appeared in large force. One of his men was killed and four wounded, whom he succeeded in taking back to the garrison. There were over an hundred Indians.—*News*.

The St. Louis New Era states that there are many soldiers on the sick list at Jefferson Barracks, and desertions are said to be very frequent.

Proceedings of Congress, IN RELATION TO THE ARMY, NAVY, &c.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 1840.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting information called for by the House on the 25th of May, upon the subject of chronometers, and the expenses of officers employed in their transportation; which was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

THURSDAY, JULY 2.

Mr. ADAMS, from the select committee to whom had been referred the memorial of the American Philosophical Society, requesting the aid of Government in carrying on a series of observations, asked leave to make a report.

Mr. A. explained that the reason why he was desirous to make the report at this time was, that the report concluded with a resolution making an appropriation to carry out the object, which it was proposed to make in the shape of an amendment to the army bill.

Mr. PETRIKIN objected to any amendment of the kind.

Mr. ADAMS said he must then move a suspension of the rule, and he asked the reading of the resolution with which the report concluded. It was read, as follows:

Resolved, That the sum of twenty thousand dollars ought to be appropriated for the establishment of five several stations, at suitable distances from each other, for making observations of terrestrial magnetism and meteorology, conformably to the invitation from the Royal Society of Great Britain to the American Philosophical Society at Philadelphia, and other learned societies in the United States; and that the said sum should be placed under the direction and at the disposal of the Secretary of the Navy, for the fulfilment of those purposes, he to account for the expenditures thus authorized to the Treasury of the United States.

Mr. A. having explained that he did not intend to press the question on the resolution at this time, but wished simply that the report should be laid on the table and printed—

Mr. PETRIKIN withdrew his objection.

And the report and resolutions were laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. WADDY THOMPSON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill making an appropriation for paying the claims of the militia of Vermont, called out by the Governor of that State, to prevent an unlawful incursion into Canada, which was read twice, and committed to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

Mr. T. also, from the same committee, reported back to the House without amendment, Senate bill entitled "An act for the organization of a company of sappers, miners, and pontoniers;" which was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

Mr. T. also reported back to the House, from the same committee, without amendment, Senate bill entitled "An act to regulate enlistments into the army and navy;" which was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

On motion of Mr. GOGGIN, the Committee on Military Affairs was discharged from the further consideration of the petition of William Glover, and the petition of the inhabitants of Virginia, in relation to the employment of laborers at Fort Monroe; and that said petitions do lie on the table.

Mr. ANDERSON of Maine, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported back to the House, with amendments, Senate bill entitled "An act to make new provisions respecting navy pensions;" which was committed to the Committee of the whole on the state of the Union.

Mr. A. also, from the same committee, made a report in the case of Lieut. Thos. O. Selfridge; which was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. A. also reported, from the same committee, a bill fixing the pay of officers of the revenue cutter service while co-operating with the Naval service of the United States; which was read twice, and referred to the Committee of the Whole.

On motion of Mr. RAMSEY,

Ordered, that the Committee on Naval Affairs be discharged from the petition of Commodore James Barron, upon the subject of a prow ship; also from the petition of naval surgeons; and that the said petitions do lie on the table.

FRIDAY, JULY 3.

THE NEW YORK NAVY YARD.

Mr. HOFFMAN moved the following:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Navy be requested to communicate to this House copies of any correspondence which may be filed, known to, or within the control of the Navy Department, between Commodore Renshaw, the Secretary of the Navy, and other persons, concerning the pump and block maker at the Navy Yard at Brooklyn, in the State of New York; and whether any affidavit has been made by the said block and pump maker in relation to his political opinions, and, if so, to communicate to this House a copy of said affidavit, and of every other paper or correspondence on file in the Department, or within its reach or control, showing that mechanics and laborers at the said navy yard have been employed, retained, or dismissed on account of their political opinions.

Objection being made—

Mr. H. moved to suspend the rules to enable him to offer his resolution, and demanded the yeas and nays.

They were ordered, and, being taken, resulted as follows—yeas 101, nays 68.

There not being two-thirds, the rules were not suspended so as to allow Mr. HOFFMAN to offer his resolution.

The House then, on motion of Mr. JONES, of Virginia, went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. LINCOLN in the chair,) and took up for consideration the

NAVY APPROPRIATION BILL.

Mr. ADAMS inquired as to the extent of the "improvement and necessary repairs" in the different navy yards, and why there was so great a difference in the amounts to be appropriated for different yards?

Mr. JONES replied, and referred to the report from the Navy Department.

The long enumeration of items in the contingent appropriations being under consideration—

Mr. ADAMS moved to strike out the words "and for no other purpose whatever," as, in his opinion, they amounted to a burlesque, the enumeration being so extensive as to embrace every object in nature.

Mr. JONES replied, and showed that the words complained of had been inserted in all former appropriation bills, and in the course of his remarks, referred Mr. A. to a bill signed by himself in 1826, while President of the United States, having the very same words.

The hour for taking the usual recess having arrived, the committee rose, when

Mr. PETRIKIN moved that when the House adjourn it adjourn to Monday next. But before any decision was had on the motion, the House took the usual recess.

EVENING SESSION.

The House again went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. LINCOLN, of Massachusetts, in the chair,) on the bill making appropriations for the naval service for the year 1840.

The pending question being on the motion of Mr. ADAMS to strike out from the tail end of the general

item which appropriated \$450,000 to defray the expenses of freight and transportation, stores, and materials, wharfage, and dockage, and many other things, the restrictive words, "and for no other object or purpose whatever,"

Mr. ADAMS resumed his remarks, but was called to order by Mr. JONES, of New York, and others.

After a few more remarks from Mr. ADAMS,

Mr. JONES replied briefly to Mr. A. He vindicated the correctness of the present item in form, contending that it was strictly in accordance with that of former bills.

Mr. McKAY contended that it was highly necessary to specify the objects to which appropriations were to be applied. He argued that, if such specifications were not made, then the Secretary of the Navy would have the power to apply the money to any other object connected with the Department. Mr. McK. referred to the bill making appropriations for the contingent expenses of the two Houses of Congress as a parallel case, and in which specifications were also made.

Mr. EVERETT made some remarks demonstrating that the public money of the country was now at the disposition of the Executive.

Mr. CUSHING said that he concurred entirely with his colleague [Mr. ADAMS] in the remarks he had made.

Mr. ADAMS made some further remarks in reply to Mr. JONES, vindicating his own consistency, which had been called in question by Mr. JONES, on the ground that he (Mr. A.) when President, had signed a bill which contained an item in similar terms.

Mr. MORGAN went into some calculations to show that, since the year 1826, the expenditures for this branch of the public service had doubled, without any adequate increase of ships, &c. in proportion to the amount.

Mr. JONES contended that he had given a complete answer, and he would say, refutation, to all charges of the kind, when the civil and diplomatic appropriation bill was under consideration. If the gentleman would refer to the complete refutation in that speech, he was sure he would not repeat the charge.

The question was then taken and the amendment was rejected.

Mr. CRARY moved to strike out the item appropriating "\$4,250 for the necessary repairs to the Naval Asylum at Philadelphia," and inserting a provision requiring the Board of Commissioners to prepare and lay before Congress, at the commencement of each session, the state of the votes of each member of the Board on all the proceedings in relation to stores, equipments of vessels, and other matters connected with the naval establishment of the United States, etc. Mr. C. proceeded to address the committee on the subject of the alleged abuses of the Board of Navy Commissioners, but had not progressed far, when

The SPEAKER resumed the chair to receive a message from the Senate.

MONDAY, JULY 6.

Mr. ATHERTON moved to go into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

Mr. DOWNING got Mr. ATHERTON's consent to move for the printing of a bill brought in by him on notice, entitled "An act to protect the lives and property of the people of Florida, and to bring the Seminole war to an end;" which, on his motion was read.

The bill proposed to give the choice of Governor of the Territory to the people—the election to take place in November next; that the service of volunteers should be accepted to fight out the war in Florida; the service to continue one year, or during the war; that all lands in the Territory should be taxed to raise money to defray expenses of the war, except the pay, clothing emoluments, &c. of the volunteers; and that, to meet all other expenses of the war, all the public lands in the Territory be granted to the Territory, to

be disposed of as the Legislature shall direct. The Governor of the Territory to have the chief command of the troops, and to conduct all military operations.]

Mr. DOWNING moved that the bill be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

Mr. CAVE JOHNSON opposed the motion, and moved the reference of the bill to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. DOWNING briefly explained the object of the bill, which was, to place the further prosecution of the war in the hands of the Governor of Florida, with power to accept the services of volunteers. He said the people of Florida were tired of trusting the management of this war any longer to those who were strangers to their interests and feelings, and who knew nothing personally of the horrid cruelties which were carried on in that unhappy Territory. He wished to make it emphatically a *Florida* war; to be conducted by the people of the Territory, who should be empowered to select those most deeply interested in the result. The present militia of Florida were greatly reduced and exhausted by previous labors and sufferings in this contest. He was for receiving volunteers, and empowering them to choose their own officers. The bill empowered the Governor and Council to distribute lands to those whose property had been dilapidated and destroyed by the savage foe. In reference to this last provision, he observed that Mr. BENTON's bill, from the Senate, proposed to give 3,200,000 acres of the soil of Florida to those who would settle on it and take military occupation of the country. That was more than would cover all that was proposed to be granted by this bill; and the Senate bill was understood to meet the approbation of the Executive. Mr. D. traced the ill success of the war in Florida to the want of a commander, and the employment of a force not adapted to the nature of the contest.

Mr. CAVE JOHNSON said he never would consent to send such a bill to the Committee of the Whole, but was in favor of referring it to the Committee on Military Affairs; to test the question, he moved to lay it on the table; and on this motion he demanded the yeas and nays: which were ordered, and being taken resulted as follows—YEAS 78, NAYS 39. No quorum having voted, the roll was again called, when the yeas and nays resulted as follows: YEAS 93; NAYS 54.

So the bill was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. GIDDINGS of Ohio asked consent to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee of Ways and Means be instructed to report a bill making such appropriations as they may think necessary to preserve such public harbors on lake Erie from destruction as are reported by the Secretary of War as having been injured by late storms.

Objection being made, Mr. G. moved for a suspension of the rule; the yeas and nays were demanded, and, being taken, were—YEAS 57, NAYS 86.

Mr. PICKENS wished to report, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, a resolution for an appropriation of \$25,000 for defraying the expenses of a survey and exploration of the Northeastern boundary; but

The House, on motion of Mr. ATHERTON, resolved to go again into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. LINCOLN in the chair,) and resume the consideration of the

NAVY APPROPRIATION BILL.

The question pending was the amendment to the bill, submitted by Mr. CRARY, as follows:

"That the Board of Commissioners for the Navy shall prepare to lay before Congress, at the commencement of each session, a statement of the votes of each member of the board on all proceedings relative to the procurement of naval stores and materials, and the construction, armament, equipment and employment of vessels of war, as well as all other mat-

ters connected with the naval establishment of the United States."

Mr. CRARY resumed his remarks in favor of the amendment. His object in discussing the amendment was to call the attention of the country to the errors and inefficiency of this board; to the manner in which they expended the money appropriated for the improvement of the navy. Mr. C. then went into a history of the transactions of this board, with a view to show that not only the naval service generally would be promoted by its abolishment, but that the vessels would be much better constructed. He spoke at length of the improvements in the naval service of rival commercial nations, and particularly in the ordnance; and showed that this board, instead of keeping pace with modern improvements, still adhered to their old prejudice, and obstructed much improvement. Mr. B. was in favor of introducing the bureau system, so as to fix the responsibility of the management of this branch of the service somewhere, which by the present system could not be traced any where. He concluded at 12 o'clock.

Mr. REED of Massachusetts obtained the floor, but yielded it to

Mr. ADAMS, who censured the Committee on Naval Affairs for not having considered and reported on the plan submitted by the Secretary of the Navy, for the substitution of Naval Bureaus in place of a board of Navy Commissioners.

Mr. REED then went into a reply to Mr. CRARY's speech, noticing the most prominent points, denying his charges, demanding proof, and eulogizing the Commissioners and the Navy generally.

He was followed by Mr. HOFFMAN, who, while he admitted that there might be defects in the existing plan of a Navy Board, and professed himself to be prepared to examine the Secretary's plan for naval bureaus, (towards which his preferences leaned,) repelled the charges adduced by Mr. CRARY against the management of the navy and the construction and arming of our ships of war, and towered into a most eloquent and stirring eulogium on the glories of our naval achievements.

He concluded at half past 2 o'clock, when the question being taken on the motion of Mr. CRARY, it was rejected.

The House then took a recess.

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CHARLESTON, August 1st, 1840.

N. B. The U. S. Ass't Quartermaster's office kept here. Sept. 3—6t

OFFICIAL NAVAL REGISTER, FOR 1840.—A few copies for sale at this office. Ap. 2

Military Intelligence.

1st Artillery.—Bvt. Major R. M. Kirby, with Co. G, arrived at Fort Sullivan, Eastport, Me., on the 19th Sept.

2d Artillery.—Major Payne, with Cos. B. and F., left Buffalo, Sept. 21, for Sacket's Harbor, via Niagara Falls Railroad. Lieuts. Daniels, Arnold, Brooks, and Nichols, and Surgeon —, accompanying the detachment.

3d Artillery.—Capt Ringgold's mounted company, stationed at Fort McHenry, paraded through the city of Baltimore on Thursday last. The appearance of men, horses, and arms, indicated the highest state of efficiency, and elicited universal admiration.

4th Infantry.—1st Lieut B. R. Alden, appointed Aide de camp to Major Gen. Scott, *vice* Pegram, promoted.

7th Infantry.—The following order has been issued in reference to the skirmish of Lieut. Hanson with a party of Indians.

ORDER } HEAD QUARTERS, 7th Infantry,
No. 37. } Fort Micanopy, Sept. 9, 1840.

The Lieut. Col. commanding has the satisfaction to announce to the regiment, that an action was fought on the 6th inst., near Wacahoota, between 1st Lieut. Hanson with a detachment of 35 men of "B" and "H" companies, of the 7th infantry, with a large body of the enemy, estimated at 80 or 100 warriors, in which the latter were severely beaten. To fight successfully, a force so superior in numbers, and that under the disadvantage of an ambuscade, requires no small degree of coolness and bravery, both in officers and men. The Lieut. Col. commanding is highly pleased at the skill and courage displayed by Lieut. Hanson, as well as at the good conduct of the men under his command. He hopes and believes that the bright example set by this small detachment will not be forgotten by the regiment whenever an opportunity offers to engage the enemy.

By ORDER OF LIEUT. COL WHISTLER :
R. C. GATLIN, *Adj't 7th Infy.*

8th Infantry.—Capt. Bonnell died at Philadelphia, Sept. 27.

About 200 men attached to the 8th regiment, left Albany, on Sunday morning, Sept. 27, for Florida.

NAVY.**ORDERS.**

Sept. 22—Lieut. L. M. Powell, command of brig Consort.

Surgeon T. L. Smith, detached from ship Erie.

Asst. Surg. J. C. Lawrason, ship Levant.

23.—Lieut. T. W. Brent, W. I. squadron.

Lieut. J. C. Walsh, do do

Lieut. Comd't. J. Glynn, detached from brig Consort, and ordered to prepare charts of surveys.

Lieut. A. Lewis, detached from ship Erie.

Mid. W. A. Henry, Naval School, Phila

24—Lieuts. R. Semmes, and N. M. Howison, and P. Mid. W. P. McArthur, brig Consort.

Surg. J. Vaughan Smith, Rec'g ship, Boston.

Asst. Surg. J. Howard Smith, do do

Asst. Surg. W. E. Coale, navy yard, do

P. Mid. H. A. Wise, depot of charts and instruments.

25—P. Mid. St. Geo. Noland, do do

P. Mid. W. Taylor Smith, do do

P. Mid. John L. Ring, brig Consort.

Lieuts. J. A. Russ and J. B. Marchand, detached from ship Erie, and leave 3 mo's.

Mid. W. M. Caldwell, and A. Murray, Naval School, Philadelphia.

26—Master Wm. Vaughan, navy yard, N. Y.

Mid. Charles Deas, Naval School, Phila.

PROMOTION.

Sept. 24—Lieut. Charles H. Bell, to be commander, and take rank from the 19th September, 1840.

RESIGNATION.

John C. Mercer, Surgeon, September 25.

MARINE CORPS.

Sept. 1—1st Lieut. H. B. Tyler, joined at Head Quarters for duty.

3—1st Lieut. J. G. Reynolds, leave 2 months.

1st Lieut. A. Edson, to report to Commo. Downes, as commanding Marine officer of the guard on board the Rec'g ship Columbus, at Boston.

4—1st Lieut. A. H. Gillespie, to report to Lieut. Col. Miller, at Philadelphia, for duty.

9—Leave to 1st Lieut. D. D. Baker, extended 2 mo's.

17—2d Lieut. J. W. Curtis joined at Head Quarters, and on drill.

18—1st Lieut. T. L. C. Watkins placed under arrest. Court martial for his trial ordered to assemble Sept. 22.

21—2d Lieut. W. A. T. Maddox, joined at Head Quarters, with a detachment of men from Phila.

REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE.

ORDERS, ETC., SINCE JULY 1, 1840.

July 13—Lieut. S. T. Williams, Alert, Eastport.

Lieut. J. Amazeen, Hamilton, Boston.

Aug. 11—Capt. W. W. Polk, Van Buren, Baltimore.

Capt. H. Prince, to wait orders.

17—Lieut. C. Prouty, Vigilant, Newport.

Sept. 2—Lieut. W. H. Samson, Crawford, Savannah.

4—Lieut. J. C. Jones, furlough, without pay.

7—Lieut. P. Storer, Hamilton, Boston.

23—Lieut. H. H. Greene, Alert, Eastport.

30—Lieut. W. B. Whitehead, on leave, to wait orders.

SUPERNUMERARY OFFICERS, DISCON'D SEPT. 30.

Capt. John Besse.

Lieut. William Russell.

Lieut. William B. McLean.

NOTE.—The cutter McLane has been ordered to be sold, and the Madison temporarily transferred to the Delaware station. The officers of the Madison, not ordered to other stations, are to await orders; and those formerly attached to the McLane have been ordered to the Madison.

Naval Intelligence.**U. S. VESSELS OF WAR REPORTED.**

BRAZIL SQUADRON.—Frigate Potomac, Capt. I. Kearny, flag ship of Commo. Ridgely, at Rio Janeiro Aug. 9.

MEDITERRANEAN SQUADRON.—Ship of the line Ohio, Commo. Hull, arrived at Trieste, Aug. 22, in 18 days from Port Mahon—all well.

WEST INDIA SQUADRON.—Frigate Macedonian, and ship

Levant, arrived at New York, on Tuesday, Sept. 29—last from Newport, R. I.

Officers of the Macedonian :

Captain, Lawrence Rousseau. *Lieutenants*, Stephen B. Wilson, Fred'k A. Neville, Richard L. Page. *Acting Lieuts.*, Charles Steedman, Jas. W. Cooke. *Purser*, Edward T. Dunn. *Act'g Master*, John N. Maffit. *Marine officer*, Lieut. R. C. Caldwell. *Commodore's Secretary*, Thomas Miller. *Asst't Surgeons*, Samuel R. Addison, J. Huntington. *Professor of Mathematics*, Jarvis McDuffie. *Passed Midshipman*, Jas. A. Doyle, *Commodore's clerk*, Wm. Cooper. *Captain's clerk*, Wm. Crozet. *Midshipmen*, J. C. Howell, J. S. Kennard, J. M. B. Clitz, Isaac G. Strain, Isaac N. Brice-land, J. B. Creighton, Henry Ashton, H. K. Davenport, Charles Bertody, John L. Nelson, Samuel Marcy, J. P. Bankhead, J. C. Febiger, Julian Myers, H. K. Stevens, David Ochiltree, Maurice Simons. *Quartermaster*, John Western. *Gunner*, J. D. Benthall. *Carpenter*, Daniel Caswell. *Sailmaker*, Wm. D. Ryan.

List of officers of the Levant.

Commander, Jos. Smoot. *Lieutenants*, I. Pennington, J. C. Sharpe, J. R. Tucker. *Acting Lieut.* G. H. Scott. *L. B. Avery*. *Acting Master*. B. F. Hart, *Purser*. Wm. A. Wayne, *Passed Midshipman*. R. B. Ban-nister, *Assistant Surgeon*. J. H. C. Coffin, *Professor of Mathematics*. *Midshipmen*, J. H. Brown, H. Rogers, J. C. Wait, R. M. Wyman, Wm. A. Webb, Edw. T. Nichols, B. L. Henderson, A. Bryson, R. M. Cuyler. Thomas H. Stoneall, *Captain's clerk*. Joshua Bryant, *Boatswain*. G. Parker, *Sailmaker*. F. M. Cecil, *Carpenter*. H. Welton, *Gunner*. E. Scott, *Master's Mate*. Seth Daggett, *Coast Pilot*.